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Letter dated 12 October 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) of 22 November 2004 and 1639 (2005) of 21 November 2005, I have the honour to convey to you the attached letter dated 9 October 2006, which I received from the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union, transmitting the seventh report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR), covering the period from 1 June to 31 August 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Annex

Letter dated 9 October 2006 from the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005), I attach the seventh three-monthly report on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR). The report covers the period from 1 June to 31 August 2006. I would be grateful if you would transmit this report to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Javier **Solana**

Enclosure

Report of the Secretary-General and High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union on the activities of the European Union military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR)

I. Introduction

1. This report covers the period from 1 June to 31 August 2006.

2. The Security Council, by its resolutions 1575 (2004) and 1639 (2005), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union (EU), report to the Council on the activity of EUFOR, through the appropriate channels and at least at three-monthly intervals. This document is the seventh such report to the Council.

II. Political background

3. During this reporting period, the general security situation has remained stable. On the political front, the pre-election campaigning started towards the end of the reporting period. Prime Minister Dodik of the Republika Srpska has made statements about a possible referendum on whether the Republika Srpska should remain part of Bosnia and Herzegovina, while a number of Bosniac politicians have raised the issue of abolishing the entities and creating a more centralized State. The gravesite of the late President Izetbegovic was bombed on 11 August; the investigation has not so far yielded concrete results.

4. Discussions on police reform continue in the Police Directorate Steering Board. There have been no further negotiations on constitutional reform, but this issue is expected to resurface after the elections.

5. Other reforms and key legislative changes have not progressed significantly; legislation on the Public Broadcasting Service and on higher education has not yet been adopted. Therefore, while the talks on a stabilization and association agreement have made progress, some key requirements for the signing of the agreement have not yet been fulfilled.

III. EUFOR[1] activities

6. EUFOR continues to conduct operations in line with its mandate: providing deterrence, ensuring continued compliance in relation to the responsibilities

[1] EUFOR currently comprises around 5,900 troops from: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Switzerland and Turkey. Cyprus and Malta also contribute to the common costs of this operation.

specified in the General Framework Agreement for Peace, annexes 1-A and 2 and contributing to a safe and secure environment.

7. During the report period, the main effort of EUFOR has been to conduct and support operations in cooperation with local authorities and law enforcement agencies. Several EUFOR operations have targeted organized crime, including illegal logging. During the eleventh Srebrenica Commemoration, EUFOR supported the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities during the Srebrenica Commemoration and March. The situation remained calm and stable throughout.

8. In June, Bosnia and Herzegovina took over responsibility from EUFOR for the management of airspace above 10,000 feet, with EUFOR retaining control of Bosnia and Herzegovina airspace under 10,000 feet.

9. During the reporting period EUFOR weapons collection activities, which are conducted in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, yielded 87 weapons, 100,642 rounds of ammunition, 1,135 hand grenades and 306 mines. Included in the figures is a discovery near Rogatica, in June, of two tons of weapons and ammunition, grenades, mines and rockets, in a single cache, dating from the war but still usable.

10. EUFOR continues to play a key part in the overall European Union approach in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working particularly closely with the Special Representative of EU and with the European Union police mission. EUFOR also continues to cooperate closely with NATO Headquarters, Sarajevo.

IV. Outlook

11. Looking ahead, the core security situation is expected to remain stable. EUFOR has started to focus on the Bosnia and Herzegovina elections scheduled for 1 October 2006 with the aim of supporting the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities and the international community in the safe execution of the event.